



Rangers at Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve (top), Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve (center) and a Ranger with junior rangers at Denali National Park and Preserve.

How Do I Become a Park Ranger?

Thank you for your inquiry into employment with the National Park Service. The basic goals of a park ranger are to protect and preserve public resources while helping people enjoy them. This may be accomplished by fighting fires, enforcing land use regulations, studying the natural world to learn how to better care for it, or through education or interpretation in parks with the public. Teaching people about parks, national monuments, and historic sites helps people understand and appreciate these national treasures and inspires their desire to protect them. These varied tasks and more can all be part of the job of a ranger.

Many rangers start as seasonal employees or volunteers. They work in urban or rural areas and often work in several different parks or positions before finding the situation they enjoy the most. Some move into permanent positions and higher government service levels as their careers continue and they take on more administrative or legislative responsibilities.

If you are interested in following this career path, there are several sources of information to help you get started. For information about permanent and temporary employment visit <http://www.nps.gov/aboutus/workwithus.htm>.

Students can find positions in National Parks through the Student Conservation Association at <http://www.thesca.org/serve>. The SCA cooperates with the National Park Service to provide volunteer experience which also provides valuable on-the-job training.

Students in the physical sciences, resource management, business administration, or related fields can find information about temporary employment in parks at <http://www.nps.gov/aboutus/jobsforstudents.htm>

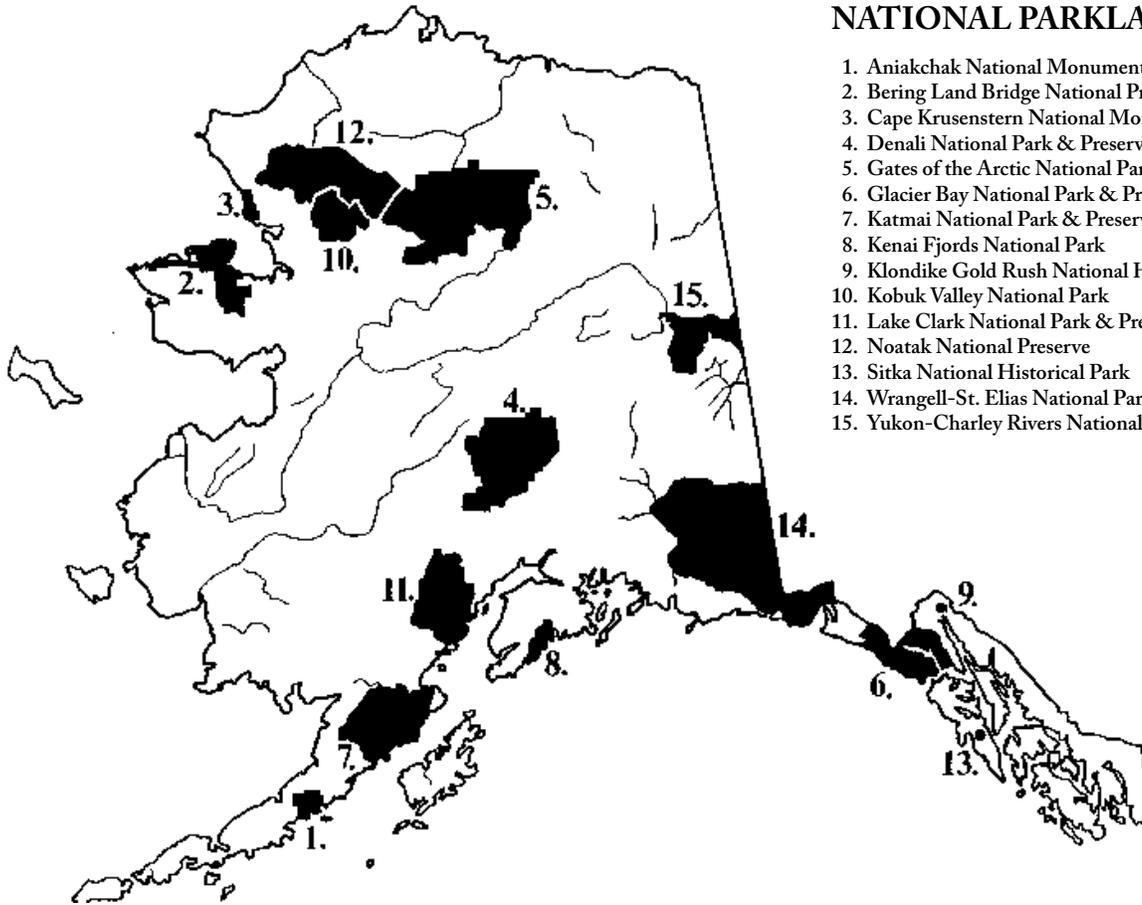
Volunteering is also a great way to work with the Park Service, for opportunities visit <http://www.nps.gov/getinvolved/volunteer.htm>.

For other National Park Service job opportunities, check the web at <http://www.usajobs.gov>.

"Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves."

John Muir, Naturalist

NATIONAL PARKLANDS IN ALASKA



1. Aniakchak National Monument & Preserve
2. Bering Land Bridge National Preserve
3. Cape Krusenstern National Monument
4. Denali National Park & Preserve
5. Gates of the Arctic National Park & Preserve
6. Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve
7. Katmai National Park & Preserve
8. Kenai Fjords National Park
9. Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park
10. Kobuk Valley National Park
11. Lake Clark National Park & Preserve
12. Noatak National Preserve
13. Sitka National Historical Park
14. Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve
15. Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve



Alaska's fifteen national parks comprise 54 million acres and make up 65% of the entire national park system. Alaska's national parks include some of the most scenic, wild, historic, and culturally diverse places in all of the nation. Contact the individual parks or visit their websites for more information.

Alaska Public Lands Information Centers	Anchorage, Fairbanks	644-3661	http://alaskacenters.gov
Denali National Park and Preserve	Denali Park	683-2294	http://nps.gov/dena
Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve	Fairbanks	457-5752	http://nps.gov/gaar
Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve	Gustavus	697-2230	http://nps.gov/glba
Katmai National Park and Preserve	King Salmon	246-3305	http://nps.gov/katm
Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve	King Salmon	246-3305	http://nps.gov/ania
Kenai Fjords National Park	Seward	422-0500	http://nps.gov/kefj
Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park	Skagway	983-9200	http://nps.gov/klgo
Lake Clark National Park and Preserve	Port Alsworth	781-2218	http://nps.gov/lacl
Western Arctic National Parklands:	Kotzebue	442-3890	
Bering Land Bridge National Preserve	Nome	443-2522	http://nps.gov/bela
Kobuk Valley National Park			http://nps.gov/kova
Cape Krusenstern National Monument			http://nps.gov/cakr
Noatak National Preserve			http://nps.gov/noat
Sitka National Historical Park	Sitka	747-6281	http://nps.gov/sitk
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve	Copper Center	822-5234	http://nps.gov/wrst
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve	Eagle	547-2233	http://nps.gov/yuch

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage. Experience your heritage!